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Communicable diseases Assignment

300level

Answer

1.

Definition: Communicable diseases is an infectious disease that is contagious and that can be transmitted either directly or indirectly from one source to another by an infectious agent.

Causative agent:

* Bacteria- Mycobacterium tuberculosis, vibrio cholerae

* viruses- HIV

* Parasites- Plasmodium spp.(Malaria)

* Fungi- Candida albicans(thrush)

Mode of Transmission

* Direct contact: Having a contact with a person carrying the pathogen e.g. Touching, kissing, sexual contact.

* Indirect contact: Having a contact with contaminated surfaces, fomites

* Droplet Transmission: Inhaling contaminated droplet from another person e.g. cough, sneeze

* Airborne: Inhalation of aerosols e.g tuberculosis

* Vector borne: Receiving a bite from an animal or insect carrying the pathogen e.g malaria, dengue fever

Method of prevention and control

* Vaccination: Immunization against specific diseases

* Early diagnosis and treatment of patient with infectious disease

* Isolation: Quarantine of infected individuals

* Vector control: Insecticide use, eliminating breeding sites to minimize the spread of diseases

- * Health Education: Promoting awareness and preventive behaviours

- * Hygiene practices: Food, environmental and personal hygiene

2 .

Endemic: refers to the constant presence of a disease or infectious agent within a given geographic area or population

Example: Malaria in certain tropical regions.

Epidemic: is an outbreak of disease that spread quickly and affects many individuals within a specific area.

Example: Cholera outbreaks in area with poor sanitation.

Pandemic : is an epidemic that spreads across multiple countries

Example: COVID-19

3.

Definition and distinguishing of incidence and prevalence

Incidence is the number of new cases of disease occurring within a specific period of time.

Prevalence is the total number of new cases (new and existing) of a disease in a population at a given time.

Importance of incidence

- * Helps to understand the risk of contracting a disease

Importance of prevalence

- * It indicates the burden of disease in a population.

4.

Measures used in controlling Communicable diseases at the community level

- * Surveillance: monitoring disease outbreaks

- * Immunization programs: Vaccination campaigns

- * Health Education: informing the public about preventive measures
- * Vector control measures: eliminating breeding sites, using insecticide
- * Sanitation and Hygiene: ensuring clean water and proper waste disposal.

5.

a. Epidemiological triangle: These include the interaction between the host, agent and environment in disease causation.

The Agent is the substance either living or nonliving that may initiate a disease process.

Host is the place where the disease is being developed

Environment, a conducive environment for the disease to develop

b. Vehicle-borne transmission: is the transmission of disease through contaminated food, water or other vehicles.

c. Point prevalence and period prevalence

* Point prevalence: is the number of cases of a disease at a specific point in time

* Period prevalence: is the number of cases over a defined period.